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Transcript of President's News Conference on Foreign and Domestic Issues

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C.I.A. Manual

Q. Mr. President, have you received the C.I.A. report on the manual? When are you going to make it public? What did it say specifically? Did it recommend disciplinary action, and what are you going to do about it?

A. I think you're going to find that the — I haven't received it yet, but I'm expecting to probably before I get back to Washington. But I have to say from whatever advance information I have that it was much ado about nothing, that it is not a document that is teaching someone how to assassinate, there's nothing of that kind in it.

It was actually a document trying to help leaders of the contras to influence and win over the people if they came into a community down there and how they were to persuade the people that they were on the right side. So we're waiting to see what's going to be — what is in there. But I have had some information on it and have been assured that there's not one word in there that refers to assassination.

Q. Sir, if I could follow up, please. There — I think that the report did recommend some disciplinary action. Are you pledged to follow the recommendations of the report, whatever it is?

A. Well, I want to see the report first. I'm not going to commit in advance to anything.

Listen, with regard to the follow-ups here though, may I point out we got a very limited time here. Now, Chris, I said you and then Andrea.

EXCERPTED